

Wichita Colleges

Universities and Academies

FAIRMOUNT COLLEGE.
Faculty and students are enjoying a brief vacation. The majority of the students spent Thanksgiving with their paternal ancestors; others have taken the opportunity to visit near-by friends; while those whose homes are far away celebrated the annual turkey feast on Fairmount.

The deacons of Holyoke Cottage and Harris Hall joined forces, bought the biggest turkey in town and had a splendid dinner and a roaring good time Thursday evening in the dining hall of the latter establishment.

The electionary reading by Miss Mabel Ellison before the Southwestern Teachers' association received much favorable comment.

A sidewalk now in construction opens Holyoke avenue to the college building. Professor Cooley has received a gift in money from E. P. Wilson, proprietor of the Great Western Store Co. The money will be invested in books for the Greek department.

All are glad to learn that President Morrison will be back in a short time. His present headquarters are in Brooklyn.

The football season was ended in a successful game at Newton on Thanksgiving Day. The college team lost but one game this season. Aside from developing good football work the team has won the admiration of both friends and opponents for clean and manly methods of playing.

Two hard-fought games were played this week. The first one occurred at Wellington on Monday and is concisely described in the following clipping: "The most desperate game played in Southern Kansas this year was that at Wellington Monday, when the Fairmount boys played the strong Wellington team to a standstill, neither side scoring a point. The Fairmounts came within two inches of scoring while their own goal was never in danger."

The following from the Newton Republican is a fair story of the Thanksgiving game: "The Newton contingent left Athletic park yesterday afternoon, meek and quiet, while the Wichita rovers, who were out in force, made the welkin ring. The game was evenly played and was a great sport for the crowd, which was very large. The game was pretty evenly matched. If anything Wichita had a little advantage in weight. The style of play was changed enough to suit the most exacting in the crowd. It was a good game and the spectators got the worth of their money. The visitors are all good fellows, both as players and as men. It is a pleasure to play with them."

Professors Isley, Barlow, Gavitt and Spindler accompanied the team to Newton. Misses Finn, Baker and Laycock were also among the Fairmount rooters and greatly enjoyed the victory.

On the return from the game, Professor Gavitt stepped from the train at Sedgewick to get a good look at the town. While he was enjoying the view of the city the train pulled out; he has not yet been heard from.

J. L. Pappe, Walt Henrich, Clarence Young, Frank Thompson, Ben Norton and Clyde Smyser all call they could on the side lines to help the team win the Newton game.

Mr. and Mrs. D. A. Nickerson of Clearwater ate Thanksgiving dinner with professor and Mrs. W. H. Leely and family.

UNIVERSITY NOTES.

University life will be issued December 3.

The students are rejoicing that the Thanksgiving vacation will continue until Tuesday.

Everyone enjoyed Miss Francisco's chapel talk on President Hadley of Yale, Monday morning.

Mr. Kirby, vice president of the board of trustees, addressed the students at chapel Wednesday morning.

Miss Edith Francisco has been ill for the past two weeks. It is hoped she will soon be able to enter school again.

Mr. George Davidson is going around with one arm in a sling. When asked if he was going to play more football he said: "No, I would rather be a live coward than a dead hero."

The members of F. U. football eleven gave a line party in con heaven at "Two Married Men" Thanksgiving night.

I wonder why Professor Williams should say, "I feel like a widow tonight."

The football game Thursday resulted in a victory for the Friends. It was a clean game from start to finish, and the weather was the only thing that hindered the game from being enjoyed by a large crowd.

LEWIS ACADEMY NOTES.

The members of the school, the faculty and students alike, were pervaded by an air of happy anticipation Wednesday, of the good cheer and, incidentally, the good dinners to come on Thanksgiving day.

The vacation from Wednesday until Monday proved an opportunity for students who do not live in the city to spend a few days at their respective homes, attending family reunions, visiting friends, such pleasures as the season afforded.

While for those who remained in town various amusements were provided to make the short vacation a happy one.

Miss Barnett, professor of French and German, spent Thanksgiving day and the ensuing vacation at her home in Emporia.

Miss Wells, a teacher in the Spivey school, who was a visitor in the city the past week, called on Miss Barnett while here. Miss Wells is a friend and former schoolmate of Miss Barnett.

The football team has disbanded for the season. The enthusiasm has somewhat subsided, at least, until next year when the team will reorganize.

W. H. Har of Viola, who was summoned on one of the special vehicles of justice for the Brown case, visited his son, Lawrence, at the academy the first of the week. The latter accompanied his father home to spend Thanksgiving.

A very fine specimen of petrified wood was found in the coal mines of Indiana and was presented to the Academy last week by Mrs. Omrah Aley of this city. The gift forms an interesting addition to the geological collections in the Academy museum.

Mr. Noel of Hinkle, who came up to take his daughter, Miss Nora, home to spend Thanksgiving, was present at the rhetorical Wednesday morning.

Miss Mae Smith entertained a small party of friends at dinner on Thanksgiving day at her home a few miles northwest of the city. Those present showed their appreciation of Miss Smith's hospitality by enjoying themselves to the fullest extent. The party was composed of Miss Nettie Hollingsworth, Miss Hattie Lawrence, Miss Laura Lathrop and Mr. Harry Lawrence.

Miss Gibson fainted during chapel exercises Wednesday morning.

German Wool Mills Must Move.
Philadelphia, Dec. 2.—The high duty on wool manufactured goods has had the effect of determining several German mill owners who have customers in the United States to establish manufacturing branches in this country. At least three of the plants will be located in this city, all of which expect to turn out cloth for the spring trade.

Janice Meridith

Paul Leicester's Story and Its Merits

The Christmas book of the year is undoubtedly "Janice Meridith," by Paul Leicester Ford. The book tells the country over have blossomed with volumes, distinguished by a miniature mounted cover, the portrait of a young woman of exceeding color, and features joining into an harmonious beauty. This is Janice Meridith. The work is having a remarkable sale, and between this and "New Year's," a great many thousands will have come to know Janice, who do not know her now. There are two editions of the novel, one a popular edition of one volume, the other of two volumes, profusely illustrated. It is an historical novel, and will be read on that account by the Kansan and westerner generally with a keen interest.

The book is not anticipated by the author, and a jealousy, not any one, even an historical novelist, come any tricks of familiarity with a figure that stands cold, distant, silently imposing as bronze—George Washington. Of the thousands who follow this charming story, all will take one of two mental roads through it, and the fork is in the first chapter. The first road will be followed by him who demands that the end of one chapter shall act as a springboard to plunge him into the possible explanations and disentanglements of the next.

For the traveler along this highway, no book has ever been written which gives more expedition to interest, more speed to curiosity. The author is lavish with incident, prodigal with drama, munificent with headlong narration. Janice Meridith, daughter of a royalist and Tory, is a rebel and patriot, is a woman, is a spot in the struggling colonies, which is royal and rebel, in dazling succession. The red of the British whips across this spot, one day, and the buff of the continental slashes over it the next. Washington, hood-nosed and stern as ever, passes it in dumb retreat and determined advance. The play, in change of investment, circumstance, and political attitude is incessant. The wealth of adventure, in conflict physical and mental, keeps the reader high and keeps him there. The story is long, but on account of this fascination, it will hold many a reader through the night that he may get to the end of it all in one reading.

That is one road. The other road is taken by the reader whose mind seeks the shrine of his patriotism, to see if a story-teller has violated it for the sake of a story. We think western readers will generally follow this route. There is in the mind of the westerner this impeachment of the easterner—that the easterner sins in being something less than eternally vigilant—a belief that if freedom depended today on New York and its environs, and a distasteful principle involved in a tax on tea, we should not be the United States, but one with Canada, coddled from London with the gift of a governor-general, and a lion and unicorn for the portals of the White House. This may be all wrong, probably is, but it is an opinion held in the west. This shrewdly-bound reader watches Mr. Ford's intimacy with Washington, jealousy, and is glad that nothing is taken from the first chapter, the father of our liberty. The author did not realize, probably, how keen the enjoyment he gave his readers in penning one scene.

Brereton, a colonel on Washington's staff, asks Washington to write Governor Livingston of Jersey, and intercede for the life of Mr. Meridith, the father of his sweetheart Janice. Mr. Meridith, a royalist, being under sentence of death, Washington dearsly loves Brereton, a brave, noble man, worthy of his love, but he replies: "I have ever refrained from interfering in the civil line, and one breaking of the rule would destroy the fabric I have reared with so much pains. If I have gained influence with the people, with the army, and with the state officials, it is because I have ever refused to allow personal considerations to shape my conduct; and that reputation is my duty to maintain at all hazards, that what I advise and urge shall never be open to the slightest suspicion of any other motive than that of the public good. It is a necessity which has caused me pain in the past, and which grieves me at this moment, but I hold a trust. Do not make its performance harder than it need be."

Brereton persists, but to no purpose, and the general having left him the task of sealing the dispatches, Brereton adds a postscript to the letter to Livingston from Washington, which postscript asks pardon for Meridith. This request prevented the execution and Brereton, hearing of it, confesses to Washington, and Washington "sat down at his desk and leaned his head on his hand. 'If it is not enough,' he said, 'that Congress is filled with my enemies, that the generals on whom I must depend are scheming my ruin and their own advancement, but that even within my own family I can find those who will be faithful to me? My God! is there no one I can trust?'"

And again after Brereton had further spoken: "Your ladyship, I do not know how we are engaged in, sir, and my sense of it, make it out of the question that I should ever again trust you; it is therefore impossible for me to longer retain you upon my staff. But your loyalty and past service speak loudly in your favor, and I shall not, therefore, push your public punishment further than to demand your resignation from my family, and so soon as there is a vacancy among the officers of the line you shall take your place according to the date of your commission. The wrong you have done me personally is of a different nature, and from this moment the affection I have borne for you ceases, and such friendship as has existed between us."

The historical scene of the Revolution are given in "Janice Meridith" with a more vividness than has before been bestowed upon them. By a shift of circumstances, Janice herself is well nigh ubiquitous, being in Trenton on the famous night of Christmas-eve revelry, when the Hessians drank to British victory, and unconsciously to American freedom, in Trenton the next morning when the charge was made by the continental army seized it. She pledged a toast to General Washington at one season, and next was at General Howe's ball in the British-held Philadelphia, and there when the Americans seized it and a mob tried to force her to salute, by the way of Tory tribute, a poor army drab, serving in a regiment, plainly and charmingly attired, and the thread of the story, adroitly, works out her development into lovely womanhood. There is only one distasteful thing in the book, the characterization of an early American demagogue, Bagby. The memory of Valley Forge ought to have left him mercifully unrevived.

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Mead & Co., New York, and may be obtained in Wichita at the Goldsmith Book and Stationery company.

MUSIC AND DRAMA.

It may seem strange to those giving theatricals this attention, but to those of the profession it is a well known fact that some of our foremost and most successful comedians aspire to the tragic side of their art, and perhaps not without good reason, for many a wearer of comedy's mask has exchanged it for the serious. Few legitimate players, however, seem to care to enter comedy's realm. Of course there are exceptions now and then. Mr. Walter Walker, whose engagement in "The Nominee" is announced for Saturday matinee and night of this week is an example of the latter class, he having for years played nothing but legitimate heavy roles. A change came as changes will do to all of us for good or ill, when least expected. Mr. Walker was unexpectedly cast to play a comedy part. He says he went on with fear and trembling, but it seems I did not do so badly. I surprised myself more than my associates. As a result was soon tempted to forego my former favorite characters. Last season Mr. Walker made such a popular hit (as all know who saw him) in the star role of "A Bachelor's Honey-moon" as to warrant his continuance in the adopted field. He comes to us this season with the superior comedy herein before mentioned which Nat Goodwin showed us a few years ago. Theatre goers will recall how this great comedy made Goodwin audiences laugh immoderately in every part of the compass.

Mr. Walker's company is said to give a performance as finished and brilliant as the play ever had. The assisting cast, which they will produce the same as such familiarity to warrant the assistance: Miss Mildred St. Pierre, Mrs. Anne Mortimer, Miss Gertrude Augarde, Mr. Clayton Legge, Mr. T. F. Baker, Mr. Percy P. Sharpe, Mr. Seavale Herbert, Mr. L. Stoddard Taylor, and others none the less prominent in their profession.

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Miss St. George Hussey in her new comedy "Widow Wiggles" (Widow Wiggles) has proven one of the emphatic hits of the season east. Manager Martling has secured the attraction for next Friday evening at the Crawford theater and feels confident that Miss Hussey's hosts of friends and admirers in Wichita will give her and her associates a rousing reception. The skit was especially written for the star by the clever authors, Miss Edith Baker. It tells a story of the rise from poverty to affluence by a hard-working Irish lady, shows the effect that sudden prosperity has upon the weak lady and her three daughters, which enables the authors to construct all kinds of ludicrous complications. The comedy is replete with the latest Celtic, rag-time and operatic songs, introducing many new and delightful dances, a carefully selected number of high-grade specialty artists and a company of capable ladies and gentlemen that complete an organization that is bound to win the approbation of the theater-going public. This will be Miss Hussey's only appearance in Wichita this season.

Trux "Black 400," which will be the attraction at the Crawford theater next Thursday, December 7, presenting for the first time the rag-time opera and minstrel, being something new and advanced in the minstrel line and one that gives every member a chance to show his or her ability. The company consist of thirty-five people, carrying their own band and orchestra. Manager Trux has spared no expense in securing the best colored performers there are in the profession. The company carries stage settings and effects. A few of the well known people are: Charles Hall, Billie Edwards, Sam P. Chase, Frank C. Collins, the great tenor singer, Al Johnson, Miss Emma Le Ray, Miss Mae Elmore, Miss Fannie Jones and many others. During the minstrel, or first part, many of the latest "coon" songs are introduced. Every member of the company are singers and dancers. A big street parade Thursday noon.

The Jefferson comedy company, which is to appear at the Crawford theater in "Rip Van Winkle," comes here heralded with great reports of their success in all the large cities last season, which was their first starring venture. It will be a delight to the public to learn of a new life to their dear old friend "Rip."

The charming comedienne, Jeanette Lewis, supported by a company of unusual excellence opened a week's engagement at Edward's opera house last night. The opening play was Miss Lotta Crabtree's greatest New York success, "Pawn Ticket 210" and the play as produced last night was a revelation to Parson's theatergoers, as it is far beyond anything attempted by any repertoire company that has visited Parson's in years. Tonight they will produce the light farce comedy, "Madelonelle Saratoga," and from all reports you will not want in opera glass or microscope to see the points that make a monument grin, you will find it all the tonic you can take at one time. A colossal, comical cocktail of fun, fun and frolic. You won't have to go out between acts to see a friend or borrow a clove; you might as well sew on a lot of extra buttons and take a belt with you as you will need them to keep from bursting—Parsons (Kan.) Ex.

Janette Lewis will open a three night's engagement at the Crawford theater on Monday night. One lady will be admitted free to the opening performance if accompanied by one paid 25-cent ticket, reserved before 6 p. m.

"THE SPIDER AND THE FLY"
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